



**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE CHANGE AND
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

PO BOX PS-69

Palikir, Pohnpei 96941 Phone: (691) 320-8815 Fax: (691) 320-8936

May 1, 2023

Dr. Jim Simon, Distinguished Professor of Plant Biology,
Rutgers University, Department of Plant Biology
59 Dudley Road New Brunswick,
New Jersey 08901

Dear Dena Seidel, Jim Simon, Ramu Govindasamy and Oscar Schofield,

On behalf of DECEM and the TNCBUR Project Management Unit, I would like to express our appreciation for your tremendous contribution to our Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) Third National Communication/Biennial Update Report (TNCBUR) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. I am pleased to report that the TNC/BUR report has been well-received by the United Nations Capacity-building Initiative for Transparency (CBIT) group.

Thank you for accepting this important research on such short notice and I am particularly impressed that you approached this work with such care, respect and with a knowledge that reflects our culture and nation.

I would in particular express our appreciation for the leadership that Dena Seidel contributed. From her hard work, late nights, consistent communication, meaningful dedication and thoughtful contributions of new content to several of the TNC/BUR chapters including the importance of traditional knowledge for climate change adaptation on our small islands and focus to ensure inclusion of women and youth.

Dr Simon, Dr Govindasamy and Dr Schofield, we thank each of you too for your contributions to this seminal work and also to you and your team's oversight and inclusion of new important data from the GCF baseline survey of climate change vulnerability for FSM farming households that Rutgers led on behalf of the GCF for FSM. I would also like to thank your whole team, in particular those who worked behind the scenes.

We hope that with this report, we can uplift our nation's vulnerable communities and showcase the nation's great efforts towards climate efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew Yatilman".

Andrew Yatilman
Secretary